

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 10, 2023

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Setting Seven

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community.

Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the laws. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.



Prelude

David Prodoehl, Guest Musician

Confession and Forgiveness

- **P.** Blessed be God, the one who forms us, † Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.
- C. Amen
- **P.** Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P. Steadfast and faithful God,
- C. you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.

We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.

We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.

For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.

For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us.

For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.

Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

- **P.** Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven
- C. Amen

Gathering Hymn

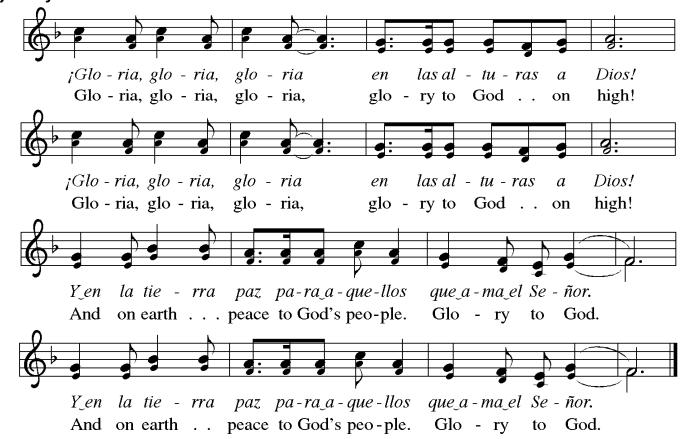
As We Gather at Your Table

ELW 522

The Greeting

- P. From God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you all.
- C. And also with you.

Hymn of Praise



Prayer of the Day

- A. Let us pray
- C. O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

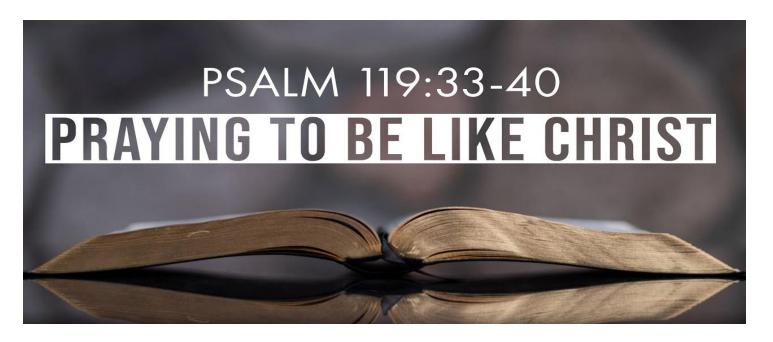
First Reading

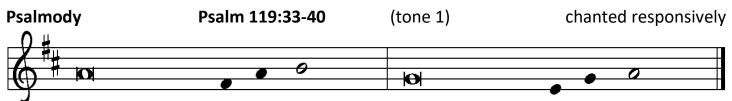
Ezekiel 33:7-11

You, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

- L. Word of God, word of life.
- C. Thanks be to God.





Teach me, O LORD, the way ^I of your statutes, and I shall keep it ^I to the end.

Give me understanding, and I shall $^{\rm I}$ keep your teaching; I shall keep it with $^{\rm I}$ all my heart.

Lead me in the path of ^I your commandments, for that is ^I my desire.

Incline my heart to | your decrees and not to | unjust gain.

Turn my eyes from be- ^I holding falsehood; give me life ^I in your way.

Fulfill your promise ¹ to your servant, which is for ¹ those who fear you.

Turn away the reproach ^I that I dread, because your judg- ^I ments are good.

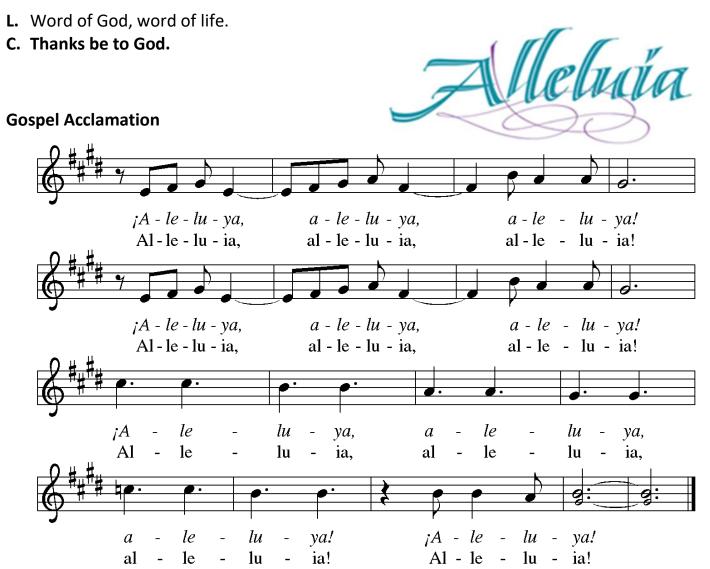
Behold, I long for | your commandments; by your righteousness en- | liven me.

Second Reading

Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

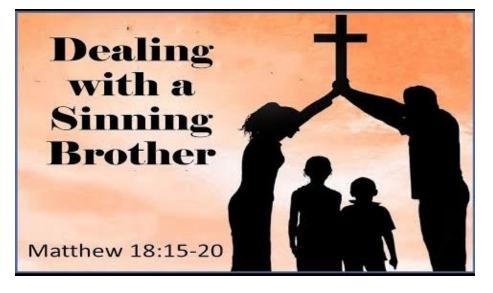


P. The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew, chapter eighteen.

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell

you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

- C. Glory to you, O Lord.
- **P.** The gospel of the Lord.
- C. Praise to you, O Christ.



The SermonJohn Petry, Interim Pastor

Hymn of the Day

God, When Human Bonds Are Broken

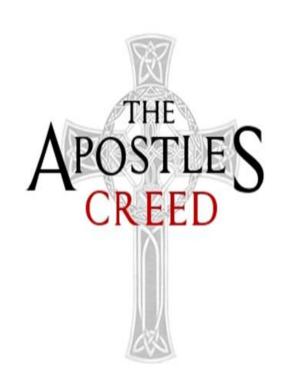
ELW 603

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen



Prayers of Intercession

A. Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

A brief silence

Hold us accountable, O God. Show your church where repentance is needed and lead us in paths of intentional compassion and listening. Help us extend hands of reconciliation and care, especially in relationships with other Christians and people of other faiths. Merciful God,

- C. receive our prayer.
- **P.** Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.
- C. Amen.



The Peace

- **P.** Jesus said: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled. May His peace be with you always.
- C. And also with you.

Offering and Offertory

Let the Vineyards . . .



Offertory Prayer

A. God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

- P. The Lord be with you.
- C. And also with you.
- **P.** Lift up your hearts.
- C. We lift them to the Lord.
- **P.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- **P.** It is indeed right . . .



The Sanctus



Eucharistic Prayer



Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

Invitation to Communion

P. Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live. Everyone is invited, no exceptions.



da - nos

grant us

tu

paz,

your peace,

da - nos

grant us

tи

paz.

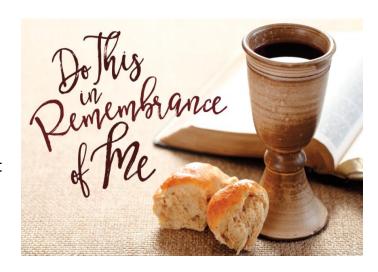
your peace.

Communion Music and Anthem

My Life Flows On in Endless Song - Choir

Post Communion Blessing

- **P.** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace and peace.
- C. Amen



Post Communion Prayer

- **A.** Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.
- C. Amen.

Blessing

- **P.** The God of glory, † Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.
- C. Amen.

Sending Hymn

Go My Children, with My Blessing

ELW 543

Dismissal

- **A.** Go in peace. God is at work in you.
- C. Thanks be to God.

Postlude



Servers for Sunday, September 10th

Assisting Minister	Shannon Thomsen
Reader	Rena Bogle
Altar Guild	Grace Barnes
Greeters/Counters	Tim Clark / Linda Hash
Guest Musician	David Prodoehl





Flowers this week are given by Tom & Alecia Harrison in celebration of Ben & Kathleen's Birthdays.

Candles for September are provided by Tom & Alecia Harrison in honor of Ben & Lori's Baptisms.

Honor a loved one by making a donation for the candles in the sanctuary for the month or the flowers that beautify the church each Sunday.

Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board in the hallway.





Pray for your Call Committee

Family of Monna Stamm

Rita's co-worker, Elizabeth Alexander – colon cancer

Rita & Pam's friend, Tomma Hargraves -- lymphoma

Kathy Hart's brother, Dan – recovering from a stroke

Ginny King's sister, Mary Anna Strickler – broken hip / hip replacement

Sylvia Lambert's grandson, Ian – deployment to Republic of Niger, West Africa

Tess Andrews' brother, David Van Benschoten

Wendy Casey's mom, Barbara – under hospice care

Lora Clark's friend, Rebecca Bowman – recovering

Clyde Bogle's sister-in-law, Wanda - cancer

Sheryll's friend Tony – terminal cancer

Mr. Smith, neighbor of Carolyn Watkins

Father of Julya Mirro - (Gale's friend)

Holly Hans' sister, Heather House & her family

Linda Hash's brother, Charles Barlow

Linda Hash's sister-in-law, Beth Hash Lennon

Pam Klawiter's co-worker, Carolyn Harbertson – breast cancer

Tim & Rita's sister-in-law, Jane Clark – breast cancer has returned

Rebecca Swanson's sister in PA – Post Polio Syndrome

Rebecca Swanson's nephew – Dr. David Shaefer

Rob Havenstein
Diana Havenstein
Peg & Dave Stamp, myeloma
Donna Hannah – bad fall
Mary Ann Jackson Dayshaun
Jim Powers Sharon Vietri
Holly Han's mother, Carol Hardy
Jonathan McCoy

